



USS Connecticut (SSN 22)

Commander Naval Submarine Forces

Commander, Submarine Force U.S. Atlantic Fleet

7958 Blandy Road • Norfolk, VA 23551-2492 • (757) 836-1650 • Fax (757) 836-1355



CDR Robert E. Clark II Commanding Officer

Commander Robert E. Clark II graduated from the U. S. Naval Academy in 1984 with a Bachelor of Science degree in General Engineering. Following nuclear power and basic submarine officer training, he reported to USS BATFISH (SSN 681) in January 1986. During his tour the boat conducted numerous independent submarine operations, while he served in a variety of billets including almost a year as the Combat Systems Officer.

Additionally, Commander Clark was named USS BATFISH's Junior Officer of the Year in 1988-1989. From August 1989 to March 1991 Commander Clark attended the Naval Postgraduate School where he graduated with a Master of Science degree in National Security Affairs and received the prestigious Naval Institute Award for his thesis work.

Following Graduate School and completion of Submarine Officer Advanced Course, where he was awarded the David Lloyd Award for Tactical Excellence, he was assigned as Navigator and Operations Officer onboard USS DALLAS (SSN 700) in September 1991. During his tour he was one of the first officers in Year Group '84 to qualify for Command, and the ship won consecutive Battle Efficiency "E's", was Submarine Squadron Two's "Top Torp" boat, and the Atlantic Submarine Force's Battenburg Cup nominee.

In May 1993, Commander Clark reported to Commander Cruiser Destroyer Group Eight (COMCRUDESGRU 8) as the Submarine Operations Officer. While attached, he participated in a no-notice deployment to Haiti as part of Joint Task Force 120 (Operation Support Democracy). In November 1994 he was assigned to the Operations Directorate of Commander-in-Chief, U.S. Atlantic Command (CINCUSACOM) where he worked closely with the Defense Department and State Department on several high level National Security issues. During his tour he completed the Air Force's Air Command and Staff College Seminar course and attended the Armed Forces Staff College. As a result of completing a Joint tour of duty, and all formal Joint training requirements, he was assigned Joint Specialty Officer (JSO) designation by the Secretary of Defense.

Following his Joint Duty assignment, Commander Clark served as the Executive Officer of USS GRAYLING (SSN 646) from January - April 1997, and USS HAMPTON (SSN 767) from April 1997 - September 1998. During his Executive Officer tours he participated in two highly successful Eastern Pacific and Northern Atlantic deployments.

Prior to reporting as Commanding Officer of USS CONNECTICUT (SSN 22) in August 2001, Commander Clark served as the Executive Officer of the SUBLANT Tactical Readiness and Evaluation Team from September 1998 - December 2000. Additionally, during this period he was selected by Commander Submarine Force, U. S. Atlantic Fleet to serve for five months as the Deputy Undersea Warfare Commander for the GEORGE WASHINGTON Battle Group.

Commander Clark's awards and decorations include the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, Meritorious Service Medal, Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal (Six Awards), Joint Service Achievement Medal (Three Awards), the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal (Two Awards), and numerous unit awards.

Arsenal of the Nation

USS Connecticut (SSN 22) is the fifth ship and the first submarine to be named for the fifth state of the union.

The first Connecticut, a gondola, was built at Skenesborough, New York, in 1776 for service with the Continental Army on Lake Champlain. The Connecticut was burned in battle to prevent its capture by the British.

The second ship named Connecticut was a sloop-of-war launched June 6, 1799 at Middletown, Connecticut. It was sold in 1801 in New York City.

The third Connecticut, a sidewheel steamer, was built in 1861 by William Webb in New York and commissioned by the Navy August 23 of that year. The ship was decommissioned August 11, 1865 at Philadelphia Navy Yard and sold the following month.

The fourth Connecticut (BB 18) was launched September 29, 1904 at New York Navy Yard and commissioned two years later. She was decommissioned March 1, 1923. The ship was sold for scrap later that year in accordance with the Washington Treaty for naval armament limitations.

Facts and Figures

- **Builders:** Newport News Shipbuilding Co.; General Dynamics Electric Boat Division
- **Powerplant:** One nuclear reactor, one shaft
- **Length:** 360 feet (109.73 meters)
- **Beam:** 33 feet (10.06 meters)
- **Displacement:** Approx. 6,900 tons (7010.73 metric tons) submerged
- **Speed:** 20+ knots (23+ miles per hour; 36.8+ KPH)
- **Crew:** 13 officers, 121 enlisted
- **Armament:** Tomahawk cruise missiles, VLS tubes (719 and later), MK48 torpedoes, four torpedo tubes